

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NEA-06 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 MBFR-02 SAJ-01

ACDA-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AEC-05 H-01 RSR-01 /079 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0554

SECDEF

INFO AMEMBASSY THEHAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T USNATO 2993

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-81

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: FOLLOW- ON TO DPC MINISTERIAL: FURTHER REACTIONS TO SPEECH
BY SECDEF- DESIGNATE

VIENNA FOR USDEL MIT

SUMMARY. PECK (UK) TOLD PERMREPS AT LUNCH JUNE 19 THAT
SECDEF- DESIGNATE SCHLESINGER' S SPEECH TO DPC HAS CONVINCED
HMG THAT MBFR WORKING GROUP SHOULD COME UP WITH AGREED DATA BASE.

SPIERENBURG (THE NETHERLANDS) REPORTED THAT MOD
VREDELING NOW HAS ALMOST DECIDED THAT DUTCH SHOULD NOT RPT
NOT PURCHASE LANCE MISSILE SYSTEM BECAUSE IT HAS NUCLEAR
CAPABILITY AND DR. SCHLESINGER HAD SOLELY STRESSED NEED
TO IMPROVE NATO' S CONVENTIONAL WEAPONRY. US CHARGE URGED
CAREFUL REREADING OF DR. SCHLESINGER' S DPC STATEMENT;
DREW ATTENTION TO HIS CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY; AND
DREW BRIEFLY ON STATE 118139. END SUMMARY.

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1. UK PERMREP (PECK) SAID THAT HMG AND SEVERAL OTHER
ALLIES HAD GREAT PROBLEMS WITH OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF NATO/
WARSAW PACT MILITARY BALANCE PRESENTED TO DPC BY
DR. SCHLESINGER. PECK SAID THAT AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY

IN NAC HE WOULD FORMALLY PROPOSE THAT ALL CONSIDERATIONS OF MBFR REDUCTIONS BE CONDUCTED ON BASIS OF MILITARY ASSESSMENT WHICH IS THE PRODUCT OF AN OBJECTIVE AND AGREED DATA BASE WITH RESPECT TO BOTH WARSAW PACT AND NATO FORCES. LONDON, HE SAID, HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY WITH ANALYSES DRAWN FROM WHAT IT CONSIDERED WERE " SUBJECTIVE BASES." IN CIRCUMSTANCES, UK BELIEVES THAT MBFR WORKING GROUP SHOULD UNDERTAKE RESOLUTION OF DISAGREEMENTS WHICH SEEM TO HAVE ARISEN DURING DPC MINISTERIAL.

2. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) OBSERVED THAT PRESENTATION BY DR. SCHLESINGER -- WHO BASED ON HIS BACKGROUND COULD SPEAK WITH CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY -- HAD CAUSED GREAT CONCERN AND SOME MISGIVINGS IN BELGIAN MOD AND FOREIGN OFFICE.

3. SPIERENBURG REPORTED THAT DR. SCHLESINGER' S SPEECH HAD COME UP AGAIN ON JUNE 18 WHEN HE CONFERRED WITH DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING IN THE HAGUE. GON, HE SAID, IS CONFUSED AS TO US PURPOSE IN MAKING SUCH A PRESENTATION TO THEIR ALLIES. VREDELING NOW HAS ALMOST DECIDED THAT NETHERLANDS SHOULD NOT PURCHASE LANCE MISSILE SYSTEM WITH ITS NUCLEAR CAPABILITY BECAUSE DR. SCHLESINGER HAD STRESSED SOLELY AND EXCLUSIVELY NEED TO IMPROVE NATO' S CONVENTIONAL WEAPONRY. SPIERENBURG CLAIMED HE HAD ARGUED VAINLY THAT NETHERLANDS SHOULD PURCHASE LANCE AS PART OF EDIP AND TO HELP OFFSET US BOP DEFICIT.

4. SYG LUNS URGED THAT PERMREPS READ DR. SCHLESINGER' S REMARKS CAREFULLY A SECOND TIME IN THEIR PROPER CONTEXT. HE NOTED THAT NEITHER DR. SCLESINGER IN BRUSSELS NOR SECRETARY ROGERS IN COPENHAGEN DISAGREED WITH NATO PRESENTATION GIVEN BY ADMIRAL POSER. HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN ASSURED BY DR. KISSINGER DURING A CONVENTION IN PARIS ON JUNE 9 THAT US HAD NOT CHANGED ITS VIEW WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY POTENTIAL OF THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS WARSAW PACT ALLIES.

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5. US CHARGE URGED CAREFUL REREADING OF TOTALITY OF DR. SCHLESINGER' S REMARKS AT DPC MINISTERIAL SINCE THEY COMPRISE A WHOLE AND SHOULD BE TAKEN IN THAT SENSE. HE ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO DR. SCHLESINGER' S MOST RECENT TESTIMONY BEFORE CONGRESS ON MAINTENANCE OF US FORCES IN EUROPE. IN THE SAME CONTEXT, US CHARGE DREW BRIEFLY ON PARAS 2 AND 3 OF STATE 118139 WITH RESPECT TO SHIFTING BALANCE IN CONGRESS. RUMSFELD

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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